

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Idaho State Office
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In Reply Refer To:
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March 4, 2003

EMS
Instruction Memorandum No. ID-2003-040
Expires: 09/30/2004

To: District Managers

From: State Director

Subject: Use of Certified Quality Seed Procured by Other Agencies, Groups, and Individuals on Public Land

Program Area: All resource-related programs, emergency stabilization and rehabilitation, and fuels rehabilitation.

Purpose: This Instruction Memorandum (IM) describes Idaho Bureau of Land Management (BLM) policy for the application of seed on public land.

Policy/Action: All State or Federal agencies, groups or individuals, are required to use only seed that meets certified seed quality on public land in Idaho. All seed applied on public land must have a valid seed test from a seed analysis lab by a certified seed analyst (Association of Seed Analysts). The results should show no more than 1.0 percent by weight of other weed seeds; and the seed lot should not contain noxious weed seeds according to Idaho State Department of Agriculture Code, Rules Governing the Pure Seed Law, and should meet the Federal Seed Act criteria.

Any seed applied to public land in Idaho must meet these noxious weed seed and other weed seed specifications. Copies of the seed lab test results, including purity and germination rate, must be forwarded to the appropriate BLM office prior to seed application. If the seed does not meet the Idaho State standard for noxious weed seed content or other weed seed allowances, it will not be applied to public land.

All National Environmental Policy Act analyses (Categorical Exclusions, Environmental Assessments, and Environmental Impact Statements) prepared for seeding projects must include the species proposed for seeding. The requirement to use certified quality seed is to be documented in the project decision records.

District Offices will initiate and maintain close coordination with their Field Offices to ensure efficient and consistent implementation of the policy and procedures established by this directive.

Timeframe: Effective upon receipt until September 30, 2005.

Background: The Bureau of Land Management obtains and applies seed on public land that meets the Idaho State Department of Agriculture Code, Rules Governing the Pure Seed Law. We require other agencies, groups, or individuals dispersing seed on public land to follow this directive.

BLM obtains seed, native or introduced plant species, from seed producers and collectors for rangeland restoration or rehabilitation seeding on public land. Before BLM purchases the seed, we have all seed lots, certified quality or source-identified seed, tested at official state seed analysis labs. Source-identified seed must meet certified seed quality for weed seed. Noxious weed seed is not allowed in certified seed according to the Idaho State Department of Agriculture Pure Seed Law and the Federal Seed Act. Other states have their own weed seed list and state law concerning noxious weed seeds. It is acceptable for the seed lot (excluding species on the Idaho State noxious weed seed list) to contain up to 1.0 percent of other weed seed, unless the weed seed has been previously identified by the particular local BLM office as weed seed to avoid in seeding.

Manual/Handbook Sections Affected: None.

Coordination: Staff in the Idaho State Office and the Lower Snake River District participated in the coordination of this document.

Contact: For additional information contact Scott M. Lambert, Regional Seed Coordinator, Idaho State Office, at (208) 373-3894 or by e-mail Scott_Lambert@blm.gov.

Lower Snake River District with Union: No Union notification or negotiation is required.

Signed
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State Director

Authenticated
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cc:
Mike Pellant, GBRI Coordinator